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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

## 1. (Previously presented)

A skin conditioner containing one kind or two or more kinds of a compound represented by the following general formula (1):

$$R_{1} - \stackrel{R_{2}}{\stackrel{\cdot}{\underset{\cdot}{\stackrel{\cdot}{\mid}}}} \stackrel{R_{4}}{\stackrel{\cdot}{\underset{\cdot}{\mid}}} N \stackrel{R_{6}}{\underset{\cdot}{\underset{\cdot}{\mid}}} \qquad \cdots \qquad (1)$$

(wherein,  $R_1$  represents a hydroxyl group, lower alkoxy group that may optionally have a substitution group, phosphoryloxy group, aryl group, amino group, sulfonic acid group, phosphatidyloxy group, lower alkyl group substituted with a hydroxyl group or amino group or lower alkyl group substituted with a guanidino group;

 $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  respectively and independently represent a hydrogen atom, lower alkyl group that may optionally be substituted with a hydroxyl group, aryl group that may optionally be substituted with a hydroxyl group, carboxyl group, or  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  represent groups, together with an adjacent carbon atom, form a carbonyl group;

 $R_6$  and  $R_7$  respectively and independently represent a hydrogen atom, lower alkyl group that may optionally be substituted with a hydroxyl group, lower alkylcarbonyl group, aryl group, aralkyl group, or  $R_6$  and  $R_2$  represent alkylene groups, which may optionally have a substitution group, that together form a five-member ring with an adjacent hydrogen atom; and, nitrogen atoms in the formula may be in a quaternary form with a lower alkyl group).

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2-22 (Cancelled)